

15 February 2017

Sweet! New manual for sugarcane growers



For the first time, sugarcane growers have a manual dedicated to their biosecurity needs.

The manual includes advice in line with the Farm Biosecurity essentials, tailored to address situations that cane growers may relate to.

Advice in the manual can also help growers to meet what's called the 'general biosecurity obligation'. **More**

Spots that were unusual



Have you spotted anything unusual on your property? Well, prawn farmers on the Logan River in Queensland have literally been spotting unusual spots – aptly identified as white spot disease.

There is now a concerted effort underway to detect further cases, enforce movement controls in the Logan River area and hopefully eradicate the disease. This outbreak has highlighted some important lessons for all livestock industries. **More**

Vehicle wash-down tackles parthenium challenge



An on-farm clean-down facility is one of the central components of farm biosecurity for Nigel and Rosemary Brumpton at their property 'Baynham', in Mitchell in Queensland. Careful attention to vehicle and machinery cleanliness has always been a priority, with a particular focus on preventing incursions of parthenium weed.

The Brumptons strongly believe that prevention is better than cure. [More](#)

Johne's disease in sheep – a good news story



In some rare, but great news, ovine Johne's disease (OJD) – a disease that has caused significant sheep losses in the past – is being detected in less animals inspected as part of the National Sheep Health Monitoring Project (SHMP).

This encouraging trend comes out of the data collected from the 1 to 1.5 million mutton sheep inspected every year as part of the NSHMP. [More](#)

In other news

Extended monitoring of threats to Australian bees

PHA has announced the extension of the National Bee Pest Surveillance Program at 32 regional ports throughout Australia. **More**

New online portal for nursery growers

Nursery growers now have a one-stop shop for all their biosecurity and best practice needs. **More**

Beekeepers and farmers encouraged to use technology to communicate

The Australian Honey Bee Industry Council and Cotton Australia are calling on all farmers and beekeepers to use online tools to better communicate with each other to protect bees and crops. **More**

Bountiful Harvet photo competition

PHA is after your photos of crops and farmers to celebrate the success of Australia's plant biosecurity system. **More**

Media snapshot

Trial of a new app to protect vineyards in South Australia

The Project Boundary Rider monitoring system being overseen by Vinehealth Australia places a virtual fence around vineyards, tracking the movement of people and pests via GPS on a smartphone. **More**

New laws to tighten biosecurity risk management

New biosecurity legislation in NSW and Queensland is aimed at boosting individual responsibility for preventing the spread of pests and diseases, with other states expected to follow suit as their legislation is progressively reviewed. **More**

What does the 'general biosecurity duty' mean to you

NSW Department of Primary Industries has prepared a diagram that explains what the general biosecurity duty in the *Biosecurity Act 2015* means to a grower or members of the public. **Click here**

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Tracking weeds using NLIS - tropical soda apple

By Rachel Gordon, Livestock Biosecurity Network Biosecurity & Extension Manager

We usually think of the National Livestock Identification Scheme (NLIS) as a method of identifying cattle, sheep and goats. Specifically, where they've come from, and where they went to. It is used to trace stock in disease outbreaks, food contamination issues, and return lost or stolen livestock. It can also be used to locate exotic plant infestations. **More**

New rabbit control video series to support farmers

A brand new video series on best practice rabbit control is now available online to assist Australian land managers apply best practice pest rabbit control during autumn. **More**

Poisoned mangoes, hidden cameras and patience controlling feral pigs

A feral pig eradication pilot project near Mackay is using hidden cameras and poisoned mangoes to pioneer better strategies for controlling the pest in sugar growing regions. **More**

International response put to the test in Exercise Athena

From 21 November to 1 December 2016, participants from Australia, the United Kingdom, the United States, Ireland, New Zealand and Canada participated in Exercise Athena, a simulation response exercise held to test the International Animal Health Emergency Reserve (IAHER) operations manual. **More**

New vegetable pest detected in WA

The Department of Agriculture and Food WA is undertaking surveillance in commercial crops and backyard gardens following the detection of a vegetable pest in the Perth area. **More**

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